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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/527,419

03/11/2005

Larry E. Reimert

DQIP-143

4771

39705

7590

01/22/2009

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EXAMINER

OMGBA, ESSAMA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3726

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

01/22/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/527,419	Applicant(s) REIMERT, LARRY E.	
	Examiner Essama Omgba	Art Unit 3726	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 September 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10 and 25 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 11-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 24 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 3, "an d" should read --and--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-9 and 11-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cases (GB 2 115 510).

With regards to claim 1, Cases discloses a method of connecting a first body 1 with a first axis and a second body having a bore 7 and a second axis substantially aligned with the first axis, the method comprising providing an elongate connection structure 4 on the first body, selectively cutting the first body to reduce an axial length of the connection structure on the first body , such that the connection structure terminates at a desired axial connection location, and connecting the second body with the first body (page 1, lines 60-65). Although Cases does not disclose the first body having a first bore, applicant should note that the shape of the first body would depend on its intended use. The invention of cases could be applied to bodies with bores.

Regarding claims 2 and 3 see grooves 6 and threads 4.

Regarding claim 4, see figure 3 with internally threaded connection member 6, and the round part of knob that could be considered a flange.

Regarding claims 5-8, Applicant should note that the recited structure lends no patentable weight to the method claimed. The recited structure and the particular materials used will depend on the intended use.

Regarding claim 9, Applicant should note that any of the bodies could be labeled an upper of a lower body.

Regarding claim 11, connecting the second body with the first body follows cutting the axial length of the connection structure in the method of Cases as illustrated in the figures.

Regarding claim 12, Applicant should note that the axial length of the connection structure of the first body in the method of Cases could be cut following connecting the second body with the first body in the case where the second body includes a through bore.

With regards to claim 13, Cases discloses a method of connecting a first body 1 with a first axis and a flange (round part of knob **E**) having a bore 7 and a second axis substantially aligned with the first axis, the method comprising providing an elongate connection structure 4 on the first body, selectively cutting the first body to reduce an axial length of the connection structure on the first body, such that the connection structure terminates at a desired axial connection location, and connecting the flange with the first body (page 1, lines 60-65). Although Cases does not disclose the first body

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having a first bore, applicant should note that the shape of the first body would depend on its intended use. The invention of cases could be applied to bodies with bores.

Regarding claim 14, Cases discloses a method of connecting a first body 1 with a first axis and a second body having a bore 7 and a second axis substantially aligned with the first axis, the method comprising providing an elongate connection structure 4 on the first body, selectively cutting the first body to reduce an axial length of the connection structure on the first body , such that the connection structure terminates at a desired axial connection location, connecting the second body with the first body (page 1, lines 60-65), connecting a tubular member **P** with the second body, and sealing between the second body and the tubular member at a location radially inward at the connection structure on the first body (bottom of bore 7 provides a sealing). Although Cases does not disclose the first body having a first bore, applicant should note that the shape of the first body would depend on its intended use. The invention of cases could be applied to bodies with bores.

Regarding claims 15 and 23, see grooves 6.

Regarding claims 16-22 and 24, Applicant should note that the recited structure and additional steps lend no patentable weight to the method claimed. The recited structure and the particular materials used will depend on the intended use.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-9 and 11-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Essama Omgba whose telephone number is (571) 272-4532. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-6:30, 1st Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Bryant can be reached on (571) 272-4526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Essama Omgba/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3726

eo
January 19, 2009